

Dear FCC, I've become aware that Sinclair Broadcasting has made a decision to force their 62 stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary during the 2 weeks before the presidential election. I will contact my local Sinclair station, WGGB, ABC40 in Springfield, MA, to let them know I'm aware of this directive and that it is in violation of laws that require them to serve the public interest if they are to have license to use the public airwaves free of charge.

I am also writing to you, as you are the agency that monitors broadcasting, and it's uses, encouraging you to enforce "fair play" in the media that use our airwaves free of charge, enforce licensure laws vigorously, and look carefully at conglomerates and mergers so that public options for coverage doesn't rest in the control of only a few large companies.

If large corporations such as Sinclair Broadcasting, use their media to present politically-motivated, one-sided views, it amount to propaganda -- they no longer serve public interest or present "news" but become an arm of a political candidate or party. Please monitor Sinclair Broadcasting, as

well as other media
stations closely for
what amounts to
propaganda or
censorship (ie, if
they do not present
a balanced view,
airing both sides
equally around
significant issues
(equally also in
proximity of time,
date, etc) Please
deny licenses, or
revoke them, if
broadcast
corporations do not
comply with the
mandate of serving
the public interest
-- all the public.
I am concerned that
our "news" already
comes in sound-bites
and slants,
information is
uneven, emphasis and
priorities are (from
my perspective)
often peculiar, and
in all of this we
see the dangers of
mergers into huge
broadcasting
conglomerates that
then control what we
see and don't see,
know and don't know.
And that massively
undermines
democracy, and the
American people's
ability to form
opinions based on a
full spectrum of
facts, what we used
to call "news."
Thank you very much
-- Sincerely,
Barbara Van Noord